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Tables Showing the Rules and Expenditure of Trade Unions in Respect of Unemployed Benefits and also Showing Earnings in the Insured Trades. (London: Wyman and Sons. 1911. Pp. ix, 327. 2s. 6d.)

These tables were prepared by the Board of Trade in connection with the scheme of insurance against unemployment contained in the National Insurance Bill, which has now become law. The first part of the report contains the most detailed account of the unemployed benefits of the English trade-unions which has been published. It comprises an analysis of the financial rules of the unions with regard to unemployed and traveling benefits in force in 1908, the expenditure in 1908 of each union on the various kinds of unemployed benefits, and the total and per capita expenditures on unemployed benefits in the trades insured under the bill for each year from 1900 to 1909, inclusive.

The total figures are impressive. In 1908, 1,473,389 trade-unionists were members of unions which paid unemployed benefits. The number of unionists eligible to benefits is not reckoned, but it was probably about 1,200,000, or approximately one half of the total number of English unionists. The predominant amount of the weekly benefits was from 9s. to 15s. and the total expenditure in 1908 was £1,245,110, or about £1 per head of insured. About one third of the unionists now eligible to benefits are in the trades which are insured under the bill. In these trades the mean annual expenditure per head of eligible membership for the years 1900-1909 ranged from 1d. for the builders' laborers to 33s. 5d. for the iron founders.

The statistics of earnings in the trades insured under the bill which make up the second part of the report, are based on information collected by the Board of Trade in 1906. As a series of reports based on this material has already been published, the present report adds nothing of interest to wage statisticians.

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NEW BOOKS

ADAMS, E. A. and SPRACKLING, W. E. *Employer's liability and workmen's compensation.* (Providence, R. I.: Legislative Reference Bureau of the Rhode Island State Library. 1912. Pp. 69.)

A summary of state legislation, and bibliography of material in Rhode Island State Library.